

TEACHING GERONTOLOGY
AARP Office of Academic Affairs
H.R. Moody, Editor
Aug. 15, 2005

NEW INTERNSHIP PROGRAM WITH AARP

AARP's Office of Academic Affairs has announced a new Internship Program open to students interested in a field placement experience at AARP offices either in Washington, DC or in State Offices around the country. Internships are open to undergraduate or graduate students in fields such as gerontology, public policy, communications, and organizational management. Internships are paid at rates commensurate with academic status. AARP is looking to identify faculty who place students in internships, and to receive resumes of interested students. For more details about the program, contact Dr. Betsy Sprouse at: bsprouse@aarp.org or call (202) 434-6362.

OLDER AMERICANS: 2004

The U.S. Administration on Aging has released its "Profile of Older Americans" with updated information in selected charts: <http://aarp.co.mansellgroup.net/UM/T.asp?A910.52851.2247.1.904262>

HARTFORD FOUNDATION GRANT

The John A. Hartford Foundation has announced a new \$1 million grant to University of California at San Francisco to strengthen its geriatric nursing center. Through a grant from the Foundation in 2001, the School launched the UCSF/John A. Hartford Center of Geriatric Nursing Excellence under the leadership of Jeanie Kayser-Jones, RN, PhD, who has been the director of the Center for the past 5 years.

The UCSF Center is one of five specializing in geriatric nursing in the U.S. funded by the Foundation, including the Oregon Health Sciences University, University of Arkansas, University of Iowa, and University of Pennsylvania.

The renewal award for \$1,050,000 over the next five years will allow the UCSF Center to continue its mission of preparing an exceptional cadre of nurse scientists who will provide academic leadership in the teaching, research and practice of geriatric nursing.

THE MOBILITY MYTH

We can't take care of the old folks because everyone's moved away, right? Or will "intimacy at a distance" make the heart grow fonder?

Well, it turns out mobility is mostly a myth, argue two noted demographers specializing in migration. According to recent data, Americans are actually less and less likely to move than in the past. "The idea of an increasingly mobile society is widely held but untrue..." says Douglas Wolf, co-author (with Charles Longino) of a major new study on the subject. They argue that U.S. elder care is not being threatened by increasing mobility because of one simple fact: The United States is NOT an increasingly mobile society, if 'mobility' means the propensity to move house.

"There are all kinds of social change that might inhibit family care-women's greater involvement in paid labor; more divorce, which tends to stand in the way of intergenerational relationships; the growing prevalence of childlessness," says Wolf. "There are lots of good reasons to be concerned about the future of elder care. But an increasingly mobile society? That isn't one of them."

For more details (including data) see "Is 'Increasing Mobility' a Threat to U.S. Elder Care?": <http://aarp.co.mansellgroup.net/UM/T.asp?A910.52851.2247.2.904262>

TEACHING GERONTOLOGY: Regional Workshops

The AARP Office of Academic Affairs will be sponsoring regional workshops (at no cost) for those interested in issues covered in this newsletter. The first of these will be in Atlanta, Georgia on Aug. 24, with an all-day conference on "Preparing for Emerging Occupations in Aging," featuring H.R.

Moody as keynote speaker. For details and registration, contact Barbara Karcher at: bkarcher@kennesaw.edu.

Another regional workshop, also led by H.R. Moody, on "Teaching Gerontology" will be held in Philadelphia, PA on Sept. 14, from 10 AM to noon. For details and signup, contact, Maria Brown at: mebqat@aol.com.

POSITION OPENING

There is a new position open for Director of Professional and Executive Development for the Erickson School of Aging Studies at the University of Maryland of Baltimore County. This position requires a Bachelor's degree and educational development and management experience preferably in senior housing or aging services. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience. Submit cover letter, resume, and contact information for 3 references by Sept. 9, 2005 to: Director Search Committee, Erickson School of Aging Studies, UMBC, PUP230, 1000 Hilltop Circle, Baltimore, MD 21250.

TEACHING SOCIAL SECURITY

Do you teach Social Security? If so, you may be interested in a Curriculum Module on Social Security, including key concepts, test questions, web resources, and other instructional materials. You may also want a periodic email publication, "Social Security Academic Update," from the AARP Office of Academic Affairs. To request the Curriculum Module or bulletin, just send a request to: teachgero@yahoo.com.

BOOKS OF INTEREST

- TEACHING DEMENTIA CARE, by Nancy L. Mace (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2005).
- SAVING SOCIAL SECURITY: A Balanced Approach, by Peter Orszag and Peter Diamond (Brookings Institution, 2003).
- MEMORY FITNESS: A Guide for Successful Aging, by Mark McDaniel (Yale University Press, 2005).

LONGEVITY ISN'T WHAT IT SEEMS

A judge in Mobile, Alabama, put a 90-year old woman in jail for selling drugs. My question is: Where are the parents?

-- Jay Leno

On my 60th birthday, I just couldn't believe that one third of my life was over.

-- Woody Allen

This electronic newsletter is edited by Harry (Rick) Moody at the AARP Office of Academic Affairs. TEACHING GERONTOLOGY contains items of interest to improve the teaching of aging in higher education. To submit items or request subscription changes, contact teachgero@yahoo.com. Back issues of the newsletter are available.

<http://aarp.co.mansellgroup.net/UM/T.asp?A910.52851.2189.13.904262>